

NPL Site Narrative for Triana/Tennessee River

TRIANA/TENNESSEE RIVER Limestone, Morgan, Alabama

Conditions at listing (October 1981): The Triana/Tennessee River Site is in Limestone and Morgan Counties in Alabama. It consists of Triana, a small town near Huntsville, and 20 miles of the Tennessee River and tributaries. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control has found that Triana residents have been subjected to exceptionally high DDT residues. DDT was manufactured for commercial use by a lessee, Olin Corp., at Redstone Arsenal (RSA) in Huntsville between 1947 and 1970. The manufacturing, handling, and disposal practices at the facility led to the discharge of DDT residues through RSA's drainage system into the Huntsville Spring Branch-Indian Creek tributary system, which enters the Tennessee River at mile 321. An estimated 475 tons of DDT residues accumulated in the sediment of the tributary system. Some fish samples exceed the Food and Drug Administration guidelines of 5 parts per million of DDT for fish sold in interstate commerce. An Army Corps of Engineers study, completed in November 1980, defined the extent of contamination and identified a preferred engineering alternative for long-term control of the DDT contamination of Huntsville Spring Branch, Indian Creek, and adjacent lands and waters.

The Department of Justice, on behalf of EPA, has brought a Federal civil action seeking injunctive relief against parties potentially responsible for wastes associated with the site.

This site was once listed under the name "Triana (Redstone Arsenal)."

Status (July 1983): The Federal lawsuit has been successfully completed through a negotiated settlement. On May 31, 1983, the overall settlement was approved by the court and all settlement documents were accepted and filed. The settlement includes a Consent Decree which provides, among other things, that Olin will develop and implement a remedial plan to isolate DDT from humans and the environment. The remedial plan is due to be submitted by June 1, 1984, to a review panel established by the Consent Decree. The panel consists of representatives from EPA (Chairperson), TVA, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Army, Alabama Department of Environmental Management, and Olin Corp. The panel will oversee Olin's remedial action until termination of the Consent Decree.

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at [ATSDR - ToxFAQs](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq/index.asp) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq/index.asp>) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.